SULLIVAN ON VEILED DISCRIMINATION, PG12

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VANCOUVER • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2010 metronews.ca

Reports of UFC 115's demise premature, says official

NEGOTIATIONS The UFC may be headed to Vancouver in June after all.

One day after an informed source said the show could end up in Cincinnati instead, the UFC's vice-president of regulatory affairs said negotiations continue to stage UFC 115 at GM Place on June 12.

"The demise of the fight has been greatly exaggerated," Marc Ratner said from Las Vegas yesterday. "We're working with the mayor, with the city council, trying to come to an agreement and … I'm still bullish on June 12 as the date."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Celebrity Buzz pg 26

Parker not good on advice

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LAURA FORTE/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Passenger complaints have led to 20 Vancouver-area bus drivers being suspended for talking on the phone while behind the wheel.

Cellphone use gets 20 bus drivers suspended

Union unsure firm gave workers sufficient notice of law change

WESTON STEELE
for Metro Vancouver

Twenty Vancouver-area bus drivers have been issued suspensions for talking on their cellphones.

The drivers were disciplined after passenger complaints and supervisors on the road saw them talking on their cellphones, according to Jim Houlahan, vice-president of Canadian Autoworkers Local 111 — the union that represents Coast Mountain Bus Company drivers.

"Some have already served their suspensions," said Houlahan. Some are outstanding as they've just come down."

On Jan. 1, legislation to ban cellphone use on B.C. roads kicked in. People were given a month-long grace period when drivers caught yakking away behind the wheel received warnings only. Starting Feb. 1, police began issuing $167 tickets.

Houlahan said yesterday that one of the issues the union is looking into is whether the drivers were given sufficient notice of the changing rules of the road.

"(Coast Mountain) just put out a bulletin in the workplace, but that's always problematic for us because about a third of our people don't even come into the workplace because they start on the road," said Houlahan.

"The employer in our view has not clearly communicated the policy and the discipline attached for violating that policy," he said.

Houlahan said bus drivers are facing stiffer penalties than members of the public because in addition to having to pay the fine, they also lose five days of pay during their suspensions.

In addition, repeat offenders could face termination, he said.

Calls late yesterday to Coast Mountain Bus Company officials were not returned by press time.

ShareYourViews
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Liberals table HST as opposition continues

LEGISLATION As a former B.C. premier tours the province trying to collect signatures in an attempt to force a referendum on the HST, the governing Liberals yesterday tabled legislation to bring in the combined 12 per cent tax.

Finance Minister Colin Hansen championed the HST as the most important step the province can take to get out of the recession.

"Eliminating the PST and replacing it with the HST will make B.C. more competitive, it will stimulate the economy and it will result in more jobs in every region of the province," Hansen said.

The legislation will blend the seven-per cent provincial sales tax with the five-per cent GST. Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland and Labrador all have forms of the harmonized tax, and Ontario will introduce it on the same day as B.C., July 1.

The resulting 12-per cent tax will apply to a range of goods that are currently exempt from the PST, from restaurant bills to home purchases and haircuts.

NDP Opposition Leader Carole James has promised to fight the HST and former premier Bill Vander Zalm is travelling the province to collect signatures from 10 per cent of voters in each riding in the next three months to force a referendum on it.

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Local

UBC pub loses liquor licence

Koerner's Pub at the University of B.C. has temporarily lost its liquor licence after staff served an underage girl who was seriously injured after falling off a roof. The pub had been warned several times to stop serving patrons who were under 19. METRO VANCOUVER

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See the Local page to learn how to scan.

News in brief

SNOWFALL The North Shore Mountains got a much-needed dump of snow, just in time for the Easter long weekend. Cypress Mountain got 50 centimetres of snow over 24 hours and Grouse Mountain received 20 centimetres. The hills were plagued this winter with warm weather.

SUSPECT RCMP have made an arrest in the stabbing death of a young man at a Surrey house party on Sunday. Adriene Skara, 32, has been charged with second-degree murder in the death of 21-year-old Buta Singh Sangha. Investigators say the fight was between neighbours and is not linked to gangs, drugs or organized crime.

CAMPING A new online camping reservation system has been launched in B.C. Starting tomorrow, people will be able to make specific reservations for individual campsites or book double sites in a single reservation to guarantee that families or friends can camp together. Details at discovercamping.ca.

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

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Blogs SpinDoctor looks at how the Liberal party is using its weaknesses to its advantage

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'We're going to blow the roof off'

More than 400 new models on display at auto show

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The recession is in the rearview mirror, say the organizers driving the Vancouver International Auto Show, which opened yesterday at B.C. Place.

The six-day auto showcase is the final event being held under Vancouver's iconic air-supported dome, which will be ripped down and replaced with a $458-million retractable roof.

"We're going to blow the roof off with this show," said Blair Qualey, president and CEO of the New Car Dealers Association of B.C.

"We've come out of a pretty challenging and unprecedented time … The auto sector is still alive and kicking and working hard to meet the demands of consumers."

More than 100,000 people are expected to check out the 90th annual auto show, which features more than 400 new vehicles from more than 20 manufactures.

Among the biggest trends, Qualey said, is a push toward smaller and more fuel-efficient vehicles, as well as improved drivability, safety and handling when compared to vehicles built only a couple of years earlier.

Among the vehicles on display is the 2011 Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid, which can run electric-only for more than 20 kilometres, reverting to a gasoline hybrid when the battery is exhausted.

Next year, the show will move to the new Vancouver Convention Centre with the aim of returning to B.C. Place in 2012.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

The Mercedes Benz SLS AMG is unveiled yesterday during a press tour of the Vancouver International Auto Show under the B.C. Place dome.

Work set to begin on Olympic cauldron site at VCC

LANDMARK The Olympic cauldron will be one more Games memory that won't flicker out.

The cauldron will remain at the Vancouver Convention Centre and be surrounded by a reflecting pool containing a map, tracing the route of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic torch relay. The flame will also be lit on special occasions.

The cauldron site will be closed for the next few months as work on the pool is set to begin this week. The B.C. Pavilion Corporation will take over maintenance of the cauldron as a permanent landmark.

WESTON STEELE/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Hockey jerseys slated for charity auction stolen

CRIME Police are looking for a thief who stole 10 Vancouver Canucks and Team Canada jerseys from a GM dealership last Sunday.

The jerseys were purchased to be auctioned off at the Scott Hetherington Charity Hockey Tournament and Fundraiser, with proceeds going to the B.C. Children's Hospital.

"We're going into our 10th year with the fundraiser … The jerseys are a big reason for our success," said Ryan Schram of Dueck GM on Marine Drive.

Const. Lindsey Houghton of the Vancouver Police Department alleged that in surveillance tapes a suspect appeared "very calm and deliberate in his actions … (He) had a screwdriver in his pocket to jimmy open the door."

The man spent only three minutes in the dealership before walking out with a bag full of hockey jerseys and a laptop belonging to Dueck GM owner and manager Pamela Keith, Houghton alleged.

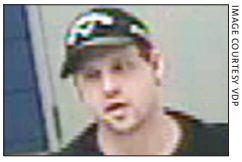

IMAGE COURTESY VPD

A suspect is seen in a security camera image at the GM dealership on Marine Drive.

Keith said the fundraiser is part of Dueck GM's involvement in charity work.

"We want that money to go to that good cause … We want to get those jerseys back," Houghton said.

Police said they are trying to identify the suspect using surveillance video footage of him coming out of the mechanic room after hours on Sunday.

LAURA FORTEY/
FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Suspect arrested in murder of woman in Lighthouse Park

CHARGED A man has been arrested in the May 2009 death of a woman in Lighthouse Park in West Vancouver, police announced yesterday.

A charge of second-degree murder has been approved against Alexander La Glace, 45, of New Westminster, in the death of Tammy-Lynn Cordone.

He was to make his first appearance in court this morning in North Vancouver.

Cordone, 43, was found murdered inside a tent in the Juniper Point area of the park in the early morning of May 19.

The area, popular with hikers, was closed for two days following the discovery as West Vancouver detectives and homicide investigators from the Vancouver Police Department collected an "abundance" of forensic evidence.

Const. Jeff Palmer said La Glace and Cordone knew each other.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER
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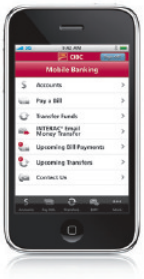

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67 minutes Vancouverites will never get back again

Metro Vancouver commuters take an average of 67 minutes to arrive on the job, according to research from the Toronto Board of Trade. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Who pays for spills?

Taxpayer may absorb $2.5M Robson Bight cleanup

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

If an oil tanker crashed off B.C.'s coast, who – besides the environment – would bear the costs?

That's the question an environmental group is asking after a trucking company was found negligent for allowing heavy equipment to splash into an orca ecological reserve off the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

On Monday, Ted LeRoy Trucking was found guilty of six pollution charges stemming from the August 2007 incident that spilled 11 pieces of equipment, including a fuel truck with 10,000 litres of diesel into Robson Bight.

Oonagh O'Connor, energy campaign manager for the Sointula, B.C.-based Living Oceans Society, said the trucking company has declared bankruptcy.

She added that the Canadian taxpayer will likely be on the hook for the spill's $2.5-million cleanup.

O'Connor is concerned over a proposed pipeline project between Alberta and Kitimat that could see 200 tankers each loaded with two million litres of crude oil travelling along B.C.'s coast.

Marathon seeks some helping hands

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lynn Thompson, left, running in the Vancouver Marathon in 1980, and right, volunteering for the 2010 Games.

RACE Organizers of the upcoming BMO Vancouver Marathon are hoping to ride the momentum of the Olympics to entice 500 more people to sign up for volunteers.

Shannon Mitchell, volunteer co-ordinator for the event, said it takes about 1,500 volunteers to run the annual event, which is taking place on May 2.

"I think that the Olympics may have been a factor in peoples' decision (whether to sign up)," said Mitchell.

"They want to have a break and after Easter they go, 'I've had my break, and I'm ready (to volunteer again).'"

Volunteers do everything from signing in the participants, prepping food, handing out water, acting as course marshals, overseeing parking and distributing the finishers' blankets.

This is the first year that people can sign up for specific jobs.

Lynn Thompson has been volunteering with the marathon for 30 years, and ran it in 1980.

She said she hopes people who volunteered for the Olympics had such a good time that they'll want to do it for the marathon.

"It's really fun," Thompson said. "You get to cheer on the runners, and it's very appreciated by the (participants). In those last few miles you need all the help you can get."

Petition against pensions for prisoners gets 17,500 names

WESTON STEELE
for Metro Vancouver

JAIL A petition to stop criminals like serial killer Clifford Olson from receiving pension while in jail has gained 17,500 signatures in less than a week.

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation started the petition when it was revealed that Olson and more than 500 other prisoners over the age of 65 receive roughly $1,200 per month each in seniors' benefits, costing taxpayers more than $7 million per year.

Olson, known as the Beast of B.C., killed 11 people in the 1980s, including two children.

Kevin Gaudet, federal director of the CTF was surprised by the large number of supporters, but understands why Canadians took this issue to heart.

"I think that a lot of people fundamentally react to the injustice of someone like Clifford Olson and people in prison getting access to entitlement programs," said Gaudet.

Seniors in prison are entitled to Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement.

David Toner of Families Against Crime and Trauma, an advocacy group trying to reform the justice system, said it's unfortunate that it takes a person like Olson to stir the public to action.

"I am a little troubled that it takes something so sensational to get people's interest," said Toner.

The CTF said it'll send the petition to the federal government within the next few weeks.

News in brief

VETERANS B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell signed a book of reflection yesterday to commemorate the passing of the last known Canadian World War 1 veteran. The book will remain in the legislature in Victoria and be available for the public to sign until April 9 – Vimy Ridge Day.

RESCUE The province has announced plans to help with liability insurance funding for B.C.'s search and rescue teams. This is good news for smaller teams that may otherwise have had to close down for fear of lawsuits.

CHARGES A Victoria police officer has resigned days before new legislation comes into effect that would have allowed him to be disciplined, CBC News Online reports. Const. Greg Smith had been on paid leave for 15 months after being charged with two counts of uttering threats in a domestic matter. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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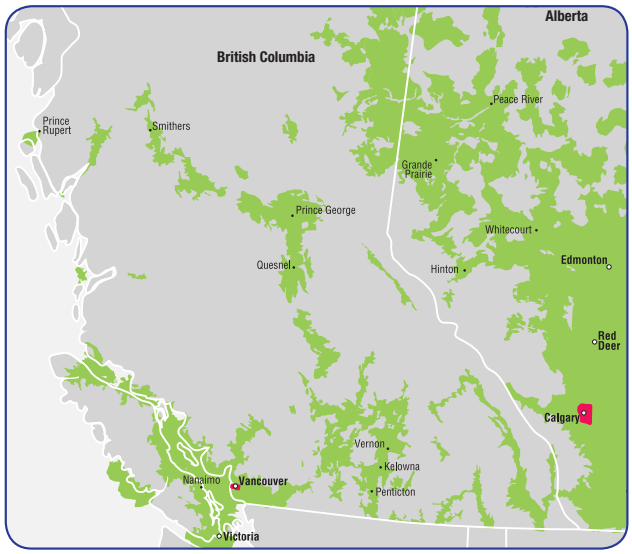

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Bhangra celebration in city April 29-May 8
City of Bhangra, North America's largest Bhangra festival celebrating the Northern Indian art form, has been announced for April 29 to May 8 in Vancouver. METRO VANCOUVER

Measles outbreak confirmed

LAURA FORTEY
for Metro Vancouver

A measles outbreak has been identified in the Lower Mainland, according to the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).

Of the 10 laboratory-confirmed and four suspected cases, none had the two doses of measles vaccine needed to ensure full protection against the disease.

The overall risk for the general population remains low due to most children getting vaccinated at around 12 months of age.

"Most years, we see no cases of measles in B.C. because our vaccination rates are high," said Dr. Monika Naus, immunization director for the BCCDC in a release.

Measles, a highly contagious viral illness is spread through airborne contact. Symptoms begin with a fever, runny nose and cough, with a rash appearing days later.

In an attempt to localize the virus, physicians are required to immediately report suspected cases of measles to public health authorities.

"Whether it's measles, mumps, rubella, or a host of other vaccine-preventable diseases for which we have vaccines, the best thing anyone can do is to make sure that their vaccinations are up-to-date," said Naus.

BCCDC offers free measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine for anyone born after 1956 that has not yet been immunized.

MLA marries partner, changing last name

GAY RIGHTS A Vancouver politician is changing his last name after getting married to his partner of more than 10 years this weekend.

The B.C. NDP yesterday congratulated the Vancouver-West End MLA, who is in the process of changing his name to Spencer Chandra Herbert. He married activist Romi Chandra in a civil ceremony that incorporated some Hindu traditions.

Chandra Herbert

Chandra Herbert, critic for Tourism, Culture and the Arts, is a long-time gay rights advocate.

He was first elected in a byelection on October 29, 2008. He was re-elected on May 12, 2009.

METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

STANLEY PARK A solar thermal demonstration project is being installed in Stanley Park to heat water in public washrooms and change rooms at the Brockton Oval. The installation of flat plate solar collectors is expected to save up to 25 per cent of the building's energy bill.

COLD CASE Four years to the day after a 17-year-old Abbotsford boy disappeared, police are hoping to garner new leads that could lead to information about his whereabouts. Manvir Sidhu was last seen leaving his home on March 30, 2006.

METRO VANCOUVER

Maintaining Transit Service in Metro Vancouver
Transit fares as of April 1, 2010

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Space items up for auction

If you're in the market for an anti-gravity toilet, look no further. Forty artifacts from the Soviet/Russian space program — including several spacesuits, a scorched heat shield, and a "human waste disposal unit" — are bound for the auction block at the Toronto-based Waddington's auction house. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Fugitive's fate to be decided

Canadian authorities are expected to decide today whether an American fugitive, who was on an alleged quest to buy a child over the Internet, will be deported to the U.S. Police in Thunder Bay, Ont., arrested Patrick Molesti, 56, of Woodstock, Ga., on Friday night at the Greyhound Bus terminal after the Canada Border Services Agency issued an immigration warrant. U.S. police have been looking for Molesti, a French national, for almost two weeks. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Afghan mission done in 2011: PM

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is making it crystal clear Canada's military mission in Afghanistan is done next year, even as G8 foreign ministers affirm the need to stay the course in Afghanistan.

The G8 ministers concluded their meeting in Gatineau, Que., yesterday with a wide-ranging declaration on the precarious state of global security.

That included the need to prevent terrorism from spreading across the world from Afghanistan.

But Harper told U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that Canada has no intention of extending its Afghan military mission beyond its 2011 withdrawal deadline.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton looks towards Prime Minister Stephen Harper as he makes a statement at the G8 Foreign Ministers' Meeting at the Chateau Cartier in Gatineau, Que.

The issue was forced into the spotlight because Clinton told a Canadian TV audience on the eve of the meeting that the U.S. would like Canadian troops to extend their stay. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Housing gap hurts: Think-tank

ECONOMICS A gap in the supply of affordable housing has left one-fifth of Canadians struggling to afford the homes they live in and that's having an adverse effect on national productivity, a prominent think-tank said Tuesday.

The Conference Board of Canada's report, dubbed Building from the Ground Up, concludes many Canadians can only keep a roof over their heads by cutting costs in ways that could harm their health — such as buying less nutritious food. The report calls upon governments to partner with real-estate developers and civil organizations to increase the amount of affordable housing in the country, saying such changes would have positive impacts on both Canadians' health and the national productivity level. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Board says...

- About 75 per cent of Canadians are currently living in homes they can afford, the Conference Board said, adding a further five per cent have their housing costs subsidized by the government.

Child porn bust leads to 73 suspects, police claiming

INTERNET A Toronto-area child-pornography arrest has led to a sweeping investigation uncovering 73 suspects in 20 countries, police said yesterday.

The investigation began last November with the arrest of a 29-year-old man in Brampton, Ont., on child-pornography and sexual-assault charges, police said.

That probe went global, culminating in police gathering evidence against the 73 suspects.

This kind of offence knows no bounds in the Internet age, police said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Canada must promote learning or fail economically, council warns"

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Court martial witness questions accuser's character
Capt. Robert Semrau's court martial has been told one of those accusing him was a 'fairly erratic guy.' THE CANADIAN PRESS

Summit draws heat from Sweden, Finland

Two Nordic nations criticized Canada yesterday for not inviting them to a meeting of Arctic countries, saying the gathering could undermine the work of the broader Arctic Council.

Sweden and Finland regretted that they and Iceland were left out of the Arctic Coastal meeting in Quebec. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton expressed similar concerns at the meeting Monday. Only the U.S., Canada, Russia, Denmark and Norway were invited.

"We regret that Canada has decided to invite only five of the eight Arctic nations to this meeting," Swedish Foreign Ministry spokesman Teo Zetterman said.

Arctic nations have competing claims in the region, which is believed to be rich in resources and is opening up for exploration because of climate change.

Zetterman said Sweden believes that Arctic issues should be dealt with in the eight-nation Arctic Council, which meets regularly and also includes indigenous groups.

> **"We regret that Canada has decided to invite only five of the eight Arctic nations to this meeting."**
> Teo Zetterman, Swedish spokesman

Sweden and Finland, which do not have Arctic coastlines, said they are worried the meeting in Canada could raise questions about the political commitment toward the council.

"We are worried that it might harm the role of the Arctic Council as a vehicle of trans-Atlantic and circumpolar co-operation," Finnish Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Anna-Maria Liukko said.

She said that Finland's "messages of concern" had been expressed to the various parties several times in the past.

Iceland has previously protested being excluded from the meeting, which took place before a summit of foreign ministers from the Group of Eight nations.

Canadian Foreign Minister Lawrence Cannon said Monday he thought all the participants made a clear distinction about the role of the Arctic Council and the responsibilities of Arctic coastal states.

He said the meeting was not meant to replace or undermine the Arctic Council.

Clinton said she had been contacted by representatives of indigenous groups who were disappointed they were not invited, according to prepared remarks. She also said that Sweden, Finland and Iceland had similar concerns.

"Significant international discussions on Arctic issues should include those who have legitimate interests in the region," Clinton said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New moms travelling to give birth

HEALTH Mothers giving birth and newborns needing hospital care constitute the largest group among patients in Canada who are hospitalized outside their home province or territory, says a new report focusing on the portability provisions of the Canada Health Act.

More than 50,000 Canadians were hospitalized in 2007-08 outside the province or territory that issued their health cards, said the analysis released yesterday by the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

The report revealed that 23 per cent of the hospitalizations were for new mothers or their infants, and almost two-thirds of these hospital admissions were planned.

Many of these births occurred in the Champlain region of Ontario, which received mothers-to-be from the nearby Outaouais region of Quebec, and in the Prairie North region of Saskatchewan, which received patients from Alberta.

Alberta had the highest inflow, hosting 25 per cent of the out-of-province patients.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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VoIP 911 has certain limitations versus traditional 911. The rates are based on a 3 year term. The rates of $41.31/month and $68.79/month are as advertised on http://www.homephonechallenge.ca on Oct. 5, 2009. The rate of $29.95 does not include applicable taxes. Unlimited Canada plan does not include calls to the Yukon, Nunavut or N.W.T. One Rate plan does not include calls to the Yukon, Nunavut, N.W.T, Hawaii or Alaska. Rate guarantee is based on competitors lowest advertised rate for like services. Home Phone Global plan is limited to 3000 minutes per month. Calls to Overseas Mobile Phones may be billed at a higher rate. 6 Months Free - You get 3 months free immediately upon activation of the service. Get an additional 3 months free if you transfer your existing Home Phone Line to Comwave within the first 3 months. Satisfaction Guaranteed within 90 days. If you are not 100% satisfied, you may cancel your Phone service no questions asked.

Facebook goes from "fan of" to "liking" in branding switch

Facebook is about to change the way it asks its users to connect to brands on the site. Instead of asking people to "become a fan" of companies such as Starbucks, Facebook will let them click on a button that indicates they "like" the brand. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Veil ban hard to enforce: French council

France's highest administrative body warned yesterday that a total ban on full-body Islamic veils in public risks being found unconstitutional, a setback to President Nicolas Sarkozy's goal of an all-out ban. Even a limited ban on the full-body veil would be difficult to enforce, the Council of State said in a study of the legal possibilities for a broad application of a ban on burqa-like garments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moscow **Day of mourning**

DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A portrait of student Tatyana Akimova, killed in one of Monday's subway blasts in Moscow, is placed at Lubyanka station yesterday. Flowers overflowed from rickety tables in two subway stations in memory of the 39 passengers killed in a double suicide bombing as Russia began a national day of mourning.

Dead babies dumped into Chinese river

The bodies of 21 babies, some with hospital identification tags around their tiny ankles, washed ashore on a river in eastern China and two mortuary workers were detained for allegedly dumping them.

News footage yesterday showed the babies — at least one of whom was stuffed in a yellow plastic bag marked "medical waste" — strewn along a dirt riverbank near a highway overpass. A few wore diapers.

Some of the babies appeared several months old, while the official Xinhua News Agency said the bodies included fetuses.

Local residents and firefighters recovered the bodies Monday after they were discovered under a bridge spanning the Guangfu River on the outskirts of Jining in Shandong province.

Interviews with residents who made the grisly find were broadcast on the website of the Shandong Broadcasting Company. One said he thought a body was a toy, but then he spotted several others. Another expressed concern because the river is a source of drinking water for villagers living nearby.

Hospital ID tags on eight of the babies helped investigators trace them back to the Affiliated Hospital of Jining Medical University, Xinhua reported.

Hospital mortuary workers Zhu Zhenyu and Wang Zhijun were fired and taken away by police.

The babies' families had paid the pair to dispose of the bodies, but they instead dumped them at the river.

Three top hospital officials were fired or suspended and the government ordered the Jining Municipal Health Bureau to make a public apology, Xinhua said.

"It exposes a serious loophole in the hospital's management and indicates a lack of ethics and legal awareness of some hospital staff," Jining city government spokesman Gong Zhenhua said. "It exerts a very negative impact on society and teaches us a profound lesson."

More than 1,000 comments were posted on Netease, a Chinese news website, within hours of reports on the discovery of the bodies.

"These people are completely without conscience and morals and should be shot," one comment said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Consultant says school didn't heed anti-bullying advice before student killed self

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Berlusconi strengthens political grip

ITALY Premier Silvio Berlusconi emerged as the victor in regional elections held across Italy and widely depicted as a test of his popularity, final returns showed yesterday.

Berlusconi's coalition won crucial races and wrested control of four regions from the opposition. The Northern League, an anti-immigration party and government ally, also fared very strongly, and will likely see its national influence significantly increase.

Overall, the conservatives won six regions — compared with the two they controlled going into the vote — while the centre-left opposition held on to seven.

For Berlusconi, the success means a strong popular endorsement for the remaining three years of his mandate. It gives the Italian leader momentum to push through controversial reforms, including overhauling the justice system. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

FLORIDA A sheriff's deputy was able to track down and arrest a man on charges of illegally dumping a boat near his home with a surprising tool: Google Earth. The Pensacola News Journal reports that Deputy Gregory Barnes used the images after finding an 18-foot boat dumped in an undeveloped subdivision. Barnes used Google Earth to look at the surrounding area and saw a fuzzy image of the vessel at Dwight Everett Foster's home.

GERMANY Two months after Germany's Roman Catholic Church became embroiled in a sex abuse scandal, the flood of new cases, allegations and complaints has started to ebb, the church's top investigator said yesterday. Though the church has not tallied the number of cases that have surfaced since January, "it looks like the strongest wave is over," Bishop Stephan Ackermann said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atom smasher breaks own scientific record

SWITZERLAND The world's largest atom smasher conducted its first experiments at conditions nearing those after the Big Bang, breaking its own record for high-energy collisions with proton beams crashing into each other yesterday at three times more force than ever before.

In a milestone for the $10 billion US Large Hadron Collider's ambitious bid to reveal details about theoretical particles and microforces, scientists at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, took high-tech photographs so they could study the disintegrating protons after they collided at a combined energy level of seven trillion electron volts. The collisions herald a new era for researchers working on the machine in a 27-kilometre tunnel below the Swiss-French border at Geneva.

In a control room, scientists erupted with applause when the first successful collisions were confirmed. Their colleagues from around the world were tuning in by remote links to witness the new record, which surpasses the 2.36 TeV CERN recorded last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Big Bang

- Dubbed the world's largest scientific experiment, researchers hope the machine can approach on a tiny scale what happened in the first split seconds after the Big Bang, which they theorize was the creation of the universe some 14 billion years ago.

British blog censured over comments
Britain's press watchdog has criticized Rod Liddle, a columnist for right-wing newsmagazine The Spectator, for saying "the overwhelming majority" of violent crime in London is committed by young black men — the first time the Press Complaints Commission has censured a blog. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Amnesty prods China on executions

Amnesty International urged China yesterday to release details on the "thousands" of people it is believed to have executed last year.

"Chinese authorities claim that fewer executions are taking place," the group's interim secretary general Claudio Cordone said. "If this is true, why won't they tell the world how many people the state put to death?"

Among numerous campaigns on behalf of human rights, Amnesty is perhaps most vocal in its opposition to capital punishment. The group keeps track of the official number of executions every year and publishes them in an annual report.

According to official data, at least 714 people were executed in 18 countries in 2009. But that figure does not include the thousands of people who are believed to be executed in China every year, as information on the death penalty is a closely guarded state secret in China. A Chinese Foreign Ministry duty officer reached after hours in Beijing had no immediate comment. While there's no indication that China plans to make its execution figures public, the country's highest court issued new guidelines last month that said the death penalty should be limited to a small number of "extremely serious" cases.

Outside of China, the nations with the most executions were Iran with at least 388, Iraq with at least 120, Saudi Arabia with at least 69 and the U.S. with 52 in 2009. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China **153 miners still trapped**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Relatives of mine workers weep at the Wangjialing coal mine southwest of Beijing yesterday. Workers reported underground water leaks days before a flood coursed through the coal mine in northern China, where 153 people remained trapped.

News in brief

JAPAN The investigation into the near-fatal shooting of Japan's police chief 15 years ago, a high-profile case linked to the religious cult behind a nerve gas attack on Tokyo's subway, has been dropped because the statute of limitations has expired, police said yesterday. National Police Agency chief Takaji Kunimatsu was shot three times 10 days after the sarin nerve gas attacks on the city's subways during rush hour on March 20, 1995, that was eventually blamed on the Aum Shinrikyo doomsday cult. The five co-ordinated attacks killed 13 people and sickened 6,300 others. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban chased out by villagers?

AFGHANISTAN It was billed as a sweep of the last major Taliban stronghold southwest of Kandahar, but for a combined force of 1,000 Afghan and Canadian troops, it was more like chasing ghosts.

The soldiers arrived in the eastern Panjwaii district only to be told by local villagers that insurgents had already been chased away. Elders in Nakoney and nearby Adamzai — both villages long recognized as transit points for the Taliban — insisted they had ejected the militants, telling them they were no longer welcome.

Afghan and Canadian commanders wasted little time taking credit, of which they described as proof NATO's new counter-insurgency strategy is working. It was just last fall when Canadian and Afghan troops fought their way into Nakoney, a village the mere mention of which makes battle-hardened Canadian soldiers cringe. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Comment

Quebec's veiled discrimination

TheWestView

If you ask me, too many people wake up in the morning with the following first thought: Let's ban something.

Jean Charest, the premier of Quebec, woke up recently and decided to ban the niqab and the burqa, the veils favoured by a few ultra-orthodox Muslim women that cover everything but their eyes.

I'm not going to waste your time arguing about pros and cons of the burqa and the niqab.

But I do not want to live in a country that allows one of its provinces to ban religious or secular adornments. If Charest can ban the burqa, he can also ban, in no particular order: Honking big crucifixes; Mohawk haircuts; turbans; phylacteries; plaid golf pants; and Speedos for all men more than 150 pounds.

Have you ever come across a squadron of middle-aged weekend bicycle warriors decked out in lemon-lime lycra? Shouldn't they be banned, too? How about really bad toupees? Take them down!

We're not talking about an epidemic here. According to one estimate, there are about 25 offenders altogether in Quebec. There are probably more people wearing leashes and dog collars who like to be escorted around town on all fours by their favorite dominatrix.

It looks as if I'm in the minority here. According to Angus Reid, 95 per cent of the Blocheads Québécois are in favour of the ban, naturally, although it's OK for them to smoke Gauloises and end up with COPD and become wards of the medical system.

Perhaps more surprising, 80 per cent of the Rest of Canada also supports the ban, so by picking on a few Muslim women, Charest has unified the nation. Way to go, Jean.

It's time to give our heads a shake. This is the land of freedom. Thousands have fought and died for our right to remain free. It's the basis of our democracy. If some people are a little different, we can tolerate that. It's called diversity, and in this nasty, censorious world it's the hope of the future. Even in what seem to be inappropriate expressions of the past.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: What's the first sure sign of spring for you?

Erin Wilson
Vancouver
A: Going outside more. Going out without my winter jacket, on purpose. Going to the beach, just being outside.

Kaivon Pakzad
Vancouver
A: The Persian New Year celebrations. There are celebrations at community halls all over Vancouver.

Shakeira MacLean
Vancouver
A: The cherry blossoms in Kitsilano and there's no rainy smell when you wake up in the morning.

Bruce Beveridge
Halifax
A: When the roads are clean and I can drive my motorcycle.

Dani Paulson
Ottawa
A: Legs. Definitely love me some legs in the spring.

Brooker Buckingham
Calgary
A: I think rain is a sign of spring, and we had rain on Friday so that's a good sign. It's the transition from snow to rain.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

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NASA to examine Toyota for probe
Toyota Motor Corp.'s accelerator flaws and electronic vehicle controls will be examined by NASA as the U.S. expands its probe into incidents linked to at least 51 deaths. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Canada among most competitive: Study

ADVANTAGE A new study by an international accounting firm shows Canada is among the most competitive countries in the world in terms of the cost of doing business in the country.

The KPMG group says Canada enjoys a five per cent advantage over its closest competitor, the United States, and ranks only behind Mexico among 10 countries examined.

The firm, which conducts biennial studies on competitiveness, says a slight easing in exchange rates and tax cuts to corporations over the past two years has given Canada the edge against the United States from a break-even position in 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Risky times for corporate gags

Skittish businesses shying away from elaborate April Fool's pranks

Corporations can make headlines with elaborate April Fools' Day ruses, but in today's economic climate, they're feeling conservative.

After all, pranksters are always taking a chance: The butt of the joke might laugh, but could scowl. When times are tense, the risk is even greater.

"There's been quite a significant mindset shift since 9-11 on both sides of the spectrum, companies on one side and consumers on the other," says Merril Mascarenhas, managing partner at Arcus Consulting Group, a Toronto-based research and strategy consulting firm.

In the '80s and '90s, people were more relaxed and open to pranks, Mascarenhas says. But these days, businesses and consumers are feeling insecure and marketers are opting for grounded and transparent communication over anything frivolous, he says.

A March Arcus survey of 430 senior marketing executives found 66 per cent were looking for risk-adverse strategies rather than new and innovative ways to stay in the forefront of their consumers' minds.

Corporate pranks can be useful marketing strategies, but only if they fit the company brand, says David Soberman, a professor of marketing at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. Pranks might be best suited for companies that already poke fun at themselves, such as A&W, he says.

Trying to pull off a large-scale prank in a single day can be difficult and expensive, Soberman says. And even longer-term tricks can backfire. In 2006, Dominos Pizza launched a covert marketing campaign under the YouTube user name MacKenzieheartsu, about a spoiled teenage girl angry at her parents for giving her a red convertible Saab instead of a blue car. In the last of a series of videos, MacKenzie sold the red car for $9.99, which she used to buy a large Dominos pizza, revealing that it was a hoax.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fast-food joke

- For April Fools' Day in 1998, Burger King cleverly launched left-handed Whoppers, designed to reduce condiment spillage for lefties.

Will Nissan's $25,000 electric car jumpstart the e-car market?
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Good news expected in coming report

ECONOMY Analysts are looking for another key growth indicator today when Statistics Canada reports how the economy performed at the start of the year.

The consensus is that the country's gross domestic product grew by 0.5 per cent in January, which should make for a quarter of rapid growth.

Economists say they have been surprised just how strongly Canada has recovered from the recession. THE CANADIAN PRESS

In brief

TOURISM Tourism spending in Canada increased 0.4 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2009, as outlays by both international visitors and Canadians were up. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryans staying in Houston

Star middle linebacker DeMeco Ryans is staying in Houston. A team official told The Associated Press last night that Ryans has agreed to a six-year contract with the Texans. Ryans was the 2006 AP Defensive Rookie of the Year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Metropolit done for season

Centre Glen Metropolit, left, will miss at least the rest of the regular season with a shoulder injury, the Montreal Canadiens announced yesterday. Metropolit was injured during a 4-2 loss to the New Jersey Devils Saturday night. He is to undergo further tests this week to determine the full extent of the injury, coach Jacques Martin said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sedin leads the way in win

NHL RESULTS

Coyotes 1 Canucks 4

VS

Henrik Sedin had a short-handed goal and two assists yesterday to lead the Vancouver Canucks as they closed in on a playoff berth with a 4-1 win over the Phoenix Coyotes.

The effort brought MVP chants and put Sedin back atop the scoring race with 104 points, three ahead of Washington star Alex Ovechkin, who tied him with an assist earlier in the night.

Alex Burrows and Mason Raymond scored on Vancouver's first two shots, giving the Canucks a 2-0 lead four minutes into the game and starting a rough night for Coyote goalie Ilya Bryzgalov.

Sedin dashed Phoenix's comeback chances when he scored a gift goal during a five-minute Phoenix power play.

Daniel Sedin also scored for Vancouver.

Radim Vrbata scored for Phoenix as Canuck goalie Roberto Luongo was solid, coming out several times to challenge shooters. He made 32 saves.

The win moved Vancouver to within a point of clinching a playoff berth and to within three of the second-place Chicago Blackhawks in the Western Conference. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver's Daniel Sedin scores against Phoenix goalie Ilya Bryzgalov during last night's action.

O'Brien out for three games

• Canucks defenceman Shane O'Brien will miss three NHL games for disciplinary reasons. O'Brien didn't practise with the Canucks on Monday after showing up late to the arena. Canucks coach Alain Vigneault refused to say what prompted the team's action. "It's not a suspension," he said. "We have a plan for him ... The situation will be re-evaluated on Sunday."

Sports in brief

SOCCER Bayern Munich showed Manchester United what it's like to lose a crucial Champions League match in injury time with a 2-1 victory yesterday, while Lyon beat Bordeaux 3-1 in another quarter-final match. United can still advance to the semifinals for a fourth straight year with as little as a 1-0 win.

TRADE The Florida Marlins acquired left-hander Nate Robertson from the Detroit Tigers for left-hander Jay Voss yesterday. The trade enables Robertson to start with the Marlins and assures left-hander Dontrelle Willis a spot in the Detroit rotation.

TRACK Caster Semenya says she will return to competitive racing this season, releasing a statement on the same day she was denied a chance to run at a meet in South Africa because the results from her gender verification tests have not yet been released. The 19-year-old Semenya, who has not raced or spoken publicly since she won the women's 800-metre race at the world championships in Berlin in August, said yesterday that she has not done anything wrong.

NFL Pittsburgh Steelers receiver Santonio Holmes denies hurting a woman who says he threw a glass at her in an Orlando nightclub and claims another woman hit her with the cup, according to a police report released yesterday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

VANCOUVER 4 Phoenix 1
Atlanta 3 Toronto 2
Detroit 5 Edmonton 4
Ottawa 5 Washington 4 (OT)
Boston 1 New Jersey 0 (OT)
Columbus 3 Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Rangers 4 N.Y. Islanders 3
St. Louis 4 Chicago 2
Los Angeles 2 Nashville 0

TODAY'S GAMES
Florida at Buffalo, 4 p.m.
Carolina at Montreal, 4 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 4:30 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
San Jose at Dallas, 5:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Colorado, 6 p.m.
Phoenix at Calgary, 6:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE OVERALL STANDINGS

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dx-San Jose	76	47	19	10	247	198	104
x-Chicago	76	46	22	7	243	195	99
d-**VANCOUVER**	**76**	**46**	**26**	**4**	**248**	**196**	**96**
x-Phoenix	77	47	24	6	211	191	100
Nashville	78	44	28	6	214	214	94
Detroit	76	40	23	13	212	201	93
Los Angeles	76	43	27	6	220	202	92
Colorado	75	41	27	7	225	207	89
Calgary	76	38	29	9	194	193	85
St. Louis	75	37	30	9	207	207	83
Anaheim	75	36	31	8	211	227	80
Minnesota	76	37	33	6	208	226	80
Dallas	76	33	29	14	216	238	80
Columbus	77	32	32	13	208	246	77
Edmonton	76	24	45	7	194	260	55

x - clinched playoff berth; z - clinched conference; d - division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Houston 98 Washington 94
Indiana 102 Sacramento 95
Milwaukee 107 L.A. Clippers 89
Oklahoma City 111 Philadelphia 93
Phoenix 111 Chicago 105

TODAY'S GAMES
L.A. Lakers at Atlanta, 4 p.m.
Philadelphia at Charlotte, 4 p.m.
Milwaukee at Cleveland, 4 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Toronto, 4 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Boston, 4:30 p.m.
Miami at Detroit, 4:30 p.m.
Phoenix at New Jersey, 4:30 p.m.
Dallas at Memphis, 5 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 5 p.m.
Washington at New Orleans, 5 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 5:30 p.m.
New York at Portland, 7 p.m.
Golden State at Utah, 7 p.m.

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Brian B	AB, CA	1043	434	611	1045
2. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	1045	443	600	1043
3. Stephanie Warren	NS, CA	1015	420	609	1029
4. Shawn Tschritter	AB, CA	1034	419	600	1019
5. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	982	402	615	1017
6. Dennis MacDougall	NS, CA	1009	407	604	1011
7. Cole Warren	NS, CA	1029	376	631	1007
7. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	1040	424	583	1007
9. Blaine Schlechter	AB, CA	1002	402	603	1005
10. Bernie Horton	ON, CA	968	415	585	1000
11. Myles Dennis	NS, CA	993	381	617	998
12. Calvin Lewis	NS, CA	1034	407	590	997
13. Steve Ferguson	ON, CA	1020	402	593	995
14. Grant Greenfield	AB, CA	1000	438	554	992
15. Sarah Jackson	ON, CA	984	371	619	990

*Results exclude Quebec

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Trinity Western gets artistic
Next month, Trinity Western University's, based in Langley, B.C., professional studies and performing arts faculty will transform into the School of the Arts, Media and Culture. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

SFU opens up

In recent months, Simon Fraser University has been building its support of open-access publishing of scholarly articles. In January, the university's senate library committee endorsed an open-access strategy for the institution's library. Last month, SFU established an open-access fund to support university researchers who publish articles in open-access journals. Metro news services

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Contractor or employee?

Labeling someone a contractor does not make them so

WorkplaceLaw

It's workplace law's newest phenomenon: Employers, happy to unburden themselves from the various costs and liabilities associated with their employees, increasingly retaining "contractors" to perform the same services their employees did before. Often their former employees are transformed into contractors and these "contractors", content to pay less taxes than they did when employees, are not about to complain. However, this arrangement is often a fraud.

When these arrangements are challenged, sometimes many years later, courts are apt to find that the contractors were truly employees. No surprise there. The arrangement represented little else than a "label." Seldom will a label be sufficient. What really matters is how the parties behave.

When will a court find that a contractor is actually an employee?

Despite signing an independent contractor agreement and incorporating his own company, the Ontario Court of Appeal concluded that Gordon Braiden was an employee. Braiden, a sales agent, worked full time and exclusively for La-Z-Boy, which controlled which products he sold, how he sold them, where his sales territory was and what promotional methods to use. It did not matter that Braiden had incorporated his own company, according to the court, because ultimately he was part of La-Z-Boy's business, not his own business.

Many companies are opting to avoid the costs and liabilities of employees by hiring "contractors."

Just recently, the Court of Appeal also found that real estate agent Elizabeth McKee was an employee even though she had signed a contract, had her own incorporated business and invoiced her principal for commissions. Without her principal's involvement, McKee hired, trained, and managed her own subagents who worked for her in selling her employer's homes.

Following a fallout which cost her job, McKee sued arguing that she was employee. The fact that McKee operated a business within her work for the company did not mean she was a contractor, nor did the fact that she hired and supervised her own staff. Since she worked for 18 consecutive years exclusively for her employer and had become an integral part of its business, the court declined to uphold the contract and characterized her as an employee. She was then awarded nearly half a million dollars in severance.

"Labeling a worker as a contractor is not dispositive, even if the worker agrees. Courts will always consider the true nature of the relationship to determine how the parties actually behaved."

Labeling a worker as a contractor is not dispositive, even if the worker agrees. Courts will always consider the true nature of the relationship to determine how the parties actually behaved.

If you want to employ or be employed as a contractor, then do as follows:

Ensure that there is a clear separation between the employer's business and the contractor. Permit the contractor to perform services for others and to maintain genuine discretion over how and when he or she performs the job. Even an airtight independent contractor agreement will not be reliable unless the parties stick to what it says.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

Workology in brief

UMANITOBA TO PROPOSE TUITION HIKES FOR PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS At a town hall meeting last Thursday, University of Manitoba president David Barnard said the institution will propose massive tuition hikes for its professional schools to the province next month. Medicine is looking to double its fees over four years, management is seeking 55 per cent, and dentistry wants 40 per cent.

REGINIA PROFS BLASTED ON HERO SCHOLARSHIP PROTEST Veterans and politicians say they are dismayed that a group of University of Regina professors has asked that the institution withdraw from its participation in Project Hero, a scholarship program for children of fallen Canadian Forces personnel, arguing that the program glorifies military action. The Royal Canadian Legion disagrees, stating the issue is not about Afghanistan, but about properly caring for soldiers and the families of those who don't return from combat.

RED BOOK BOOKSTORE HONOURED Red Deer College's bookstore has received the US-based National Association of Campus Stores Foundation 2010 Innovation Achievement Award for its innovative method of promoting environmental responsibility while raising funds for its scholarship program. Under "The Scholarship's in the Bag" initiative, customized reusable bags were sold in the bookstore and library to replace traditional plastic bags, and 50 cents from each bag sale is contributed to the RDC Bookstore Scholarship Fund. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Memorial gets boost to infrastructure investments
The Newfoundland and Labrador government's 2010-11 budget, announced Monday, includes significant investments in infrastructure at Memorial University. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Inspiring female engineers

Professors pleased with Barbie's latest doll option

Engineering the Future

During the month of March, Metro Workology focused on the engineering field and what it means to the aspiring engineer and the world as a whole. We hope you enjoyed it and thanks for reading.

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

Everybody knows Bob can build it, but what about Barbie? For career number 125, the iconic doll has mastered the geek-chic look and become Computer Engineer Barbie, according to Mattel.com.

The doll comes with a cellphone headset, laptop bag and pink laptop and was the first professional Barbie chosen by popular vote. So how do real-life women engineers feel about engineer Barbie?

Elizabeth Croft, associate head of engineering at the University of British Columbia, says Barbie is a good ambassador for women engineers.

"I don't see the downside to this. Barbie's been a doctor and a lawyer. It's only natural that she should also be an engineer," Croft says.

Croft noted only about 10 per cent of the engineering workforce is female and about 18 per cent of engineering students are female. She had no female engineering role models when she started in the profession.

She says it's a cultural issue, with people unconsciously thinking of engineering as a man's job. That changed with doctors and she says it's time for engineering to catch up. Perhaps Barbie can help engineer social change.

AP PHOTO/MARK LENNIHAN

Computer Engineer Barbie is the 125th version of the iconic doll. Only 10 per cent of the engineering workforce is female.

"I don't have any issues with Barbie. Barbie's come a long way," she says, noting she was a Lego girl herself.

In Halifax, Corinne MacDonald, assistant engineering professor at Dalhousie University, laughs when she sees the image of Computer Engineer Barbie.

"I don't see the downside to this. Barbie's been a doctor and a lawyer. It's only natural that she should also be an engineer."
Elizabeth Croft, UBC's associate head of engineering

"Actually, I like it. She's not even wearing heels," she says.

Like Croft, MacDonald didn't have any female engineering role models.

"That's probably one of the biggest problems we have in engineering. It's catch-22: There aren't a lot of women in engineering and to attract more women to engineering, we need more women in engineering," she says.

"I think any opportunity we have to put that thought in girls' heads is a good thing."

MacDonald was a stellar math and science student in high school, but engineering never crossed her mind until she took a computer career test. Its top suggestion was engineering.

"At which I point I went, 'What's that?'" she recalls. Her guidance counsellor filled her in and MacDonald started on the engineering path. Female role models, even plastic ones, help young women visualize themselves as engineers, she says.

"I liked to play with Barbies, but I liked to play with building blocks, too. Maybe Barbie could run the project and boss all the other Barbies around," she laughs.

For more of the Engineering the Future exclusive series check Workology every Wednesday or stop by: **metronews.ca/work**

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Plans for plug-ins
Consumer Reports surveyed 1,752 American adults and 26 per cent of them said they likely would consider a plug-in car of some kind next time they're in the market for new wheels. Seven per cent said they are "very likely" to consider one. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Green with EN-V

General Motors recently unveiled a trio of electric "urban mobility vehicles," built with help from the über-geeks at Segway. They're called Electric Networked Vehicles (EN-V) and they're designed for cities bursting at the seams with traffic. WIRED.COM

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Car heaven on the coast

SEAN KOLENKO
for Metro Canada

The Vancouver International Auto Show may be the last stop on the Canadian car show circuit, but event organizers have plenty in store to wow west coast car enthusiasts this year.

More than 400 new models from 20 different manufacturers from around the world are scheduled to make their way down to B.C. Place to be part of the 90th instalment of the largest consumer show in Western Canada.

One of the most anticipated vehicle unveilings at the show is the 2011 Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid Thanks to its fully hybrid gasoline electric powertrain transmission, the Prius is able to reach speeds of 96 km/h strictly on battery power and boasts a 57 km/l fuel economy. The Prius plug-in is also able to switch to hybrid power for longer trips.

"The big question people will be asking and ultimately deciding on this year is whether plug in cars can work," said Paul McGeachie, executive director of the New Car Dealers Association of B.C., the group responsible for staging the show.

"We're always in an effort to see what's the next best propulsion system and this year it's electricity," added McGeachie.

The 2010 Rolls Royce Phantom Drophead Coupe, above, and the 2011 Toyota Prius Plug-In Hybrid.

Along with the greener initiatives being unveiled at the show, this year's Vancouver stop will also showcase an extensive lineup of luxury automobiles. The SuperCars exhibit will be the event's largest to date bringing lavish vehicles together from across the globe with a combined MSRP of $2.8 million.

The centrepiece of the display is the 2010 Rolls-Royce Phantom Drophead Coupe. This latest offering from the luxurious British manufacturer features their iconic rear suicide doors and a front deck finished with 30 pieces of grained wood.

While environmentally focused ingenuity and over-the-top toys will draw those looking to marvel at what the future may look like, some say a more traditional pull of the show will still pack the crowds in.

"I think the important this is that the show has always been a showcase," said Laura Ballance, a spokesperson for the event.

"You can get things under one roof and shop and compare. People can come and see touch and feel the product before getting out to their local dealers."

2010 Vancouver Auto Show

- **When:** Until April 4, Today-Friday: Noon-10 p.m; Saturday: 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- **Where:** B.C. Place
- **Tickets:** General admission: $10 (till Thursday); $15 (Friday-Sunday). Seniors / Students: $10; Children 7-12: $4, Children 6 and under: Free. Family Pass: $25 (till Thursday); $30 (Friday-Sunday)

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LaCrosse improves fuel economy
The fuel-efficient four-cylinder engine is now the standard engine in the 2010 Buick LaCrosse CX sedan, offering fuel efficiency of 6.6 L/100 km in highway driving. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Take pride in Sonata

Hyundai says that 2011 Sonata has the best interior volume and fuel economy in the mid-size sedan segment.

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

This story should be about the 2011 mid-size Sonata sedan but what's happening at Hyundai Canada is perhaps just as important.

It wasn't so long ago that Hyundai thought it was a banner year if they told 25,000 units. In 2009, it sold 103,233 making Hyundai one of only six car companies to exceed 100,000 in sales in Canada. In January of this year alone, they sold 6,084 vehicles.

But the big number is Hyundai's 7.1 per cent of the market in 2009 up from 4.9 per cent in 2008. For those of you who follow the car industry, a jump like that is unheard of.

How are they doing this when others are faltering?

The 2011 Sonata says it all. The car is solid, even fun to drive which you couldn't have said about a Hyundai 10 years ago. And in a break from Sonatas that have gone before, it looks great.

Hyundai vehicles now have a substantial residual (trade-in) value. The Sonata, for example, has a residual of 53 per cent that is higher than Camry or Fusion at 49 per cent each.

Hyundai is coming to market with a hybrid in the fall. Rather than being late in the rush to electrics, Hyundai is actually moving ahead of the rest with a lithium-polymer battery that can be shaped to fit instead of being a big box of batteries.

No longer a "cheap and cheerful" A to B sedan, the 2011 Sonata is also part of a plan to get across the message that Hyundai now stands for quality which we saw begin with the Genesis sedan.

But what really stands out is the styling. To me, this is the first Hyundai to look enticing. With a touch of C-Class at the front and mixture of Lexus/Bimmer at the back, there is a wonderful character line running from the headlight along with door window sill and capped with chrome that makes the kind of "look at me" statement that Hyundai has never made before.

Power is Hyundai's new gasoline direct injection (GDI) 2.4-litre, twin cam in-line four-cylinder engine. GDI results in more power and less fuel consumption. At 198 hp and 164 lb/ft of torque, which is a lot for 2.4-litres, Hyundai claims it is the most fuel-efficient in the segment at 8.7/5.7L/100 km city/highway for the six-speed manual transmission and 9.4/5.7L/100 km with the six-speed automatic.

The base GL ($22,649) comes with the manual or with the optional automatic ($24,249). The GLS ($26,249), Limited ($28,999) and Limited with navigation system ($30,999) are all fitted with the automatic.

Instead of being a bland handler, the Sonata not only points well, but it has a feel more like a European sedan. You sense with the inputs coming through the steering wheel to the fingertips which I really can't quite remember in previous Sonatas.

What Hyundai has in the 2011 Sonata is an affordable car with the kind of looks and reliability that consumers in the mid-size segment now consider seriously as the sales numbers are already proving.

But I also think it goes beyond that. It's the first Hyundai people can aspire to own, not because of the fuel economy or the price, but because they are proud to have a Hyundai in their driveway.

2011 Hyundai Sonata

Type: Mid-size sedan
Price: from $22,649
Engine: 2.4-litre, DOHC four-cylinder
HP: 198

Highlights

- Feels like a European sedan
- Impressive styling
- Affordable

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Mermaids return to Ripley's ponds

Following standing-room only performances at both Ripley's Aquariums in 2009, the world famous mermaids of Weeki Wachee Springs State Park in Florida, will be returning to both aquariums this summer. ripleysaquarium.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Rolling into Mexico's gold coast party

Motorcycle fans gear up for five days of high-octane fun and adventure along Mexico's golden Pacific Coast. Mazatlán hosts the 15th Annual International Motorcycle Week, Apr. 7 – Apr. 11. This year's event is expected to draw more than 300,000 bikers and spectators to Mazatlán from across North America and Mexico. The centerpiece of the 2010 International Motorcycle Week is the Great Parade when more than 15,000 bikers join in this colorful procession of international motorcycle clubs. gomazatlan.com METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Ray's caters to street riders, mountain bikers and dirt jumpers.

Bringing the mountain indoors

Cleveland quickly becoming a Mecca for extreme biker riders

SUSAN GREENWOOD
Metro World News

Cleveland: Steel, flats as far as the eye can see, great piles of factories, smoke curling into the sky, rivers cleaving their way through the mud.

Not a lot to commend it to the uninitiated.

To the seasoned mountain biker however Cleveland is Mecca.

For here, in the industrial heartland of the Mid West is Ray's Mountain Bike Park — the world's biggest — 100,000 square feet of ramps, routes, drop offs and jumps.

A bike heaven built from an old parachute warehouse and a refuge in the winter months when riding outside is only for the insane.

Skate and BMX parks are pretty well established across Europe and the United States. But Ray's is the first location to cater to all types of mountain bikers. Here, Lycra-clad cross-country folk share space with dirt jumpers and the facilities are built to test — and help you improve — your skills. There are technical rocky sections, places to practise your balance and a pit filled with foam for those keen to nail backflips without landing on wood or concrete.

Rock music blares out from the sound system and bike videos play on a loop on the big flat screen TV.

The routes, which are mainly made of wood, were born back in 2004 with an 'if you build it, they will come' mentality and it's thrived ever since.

Bikers travel from all over the world to ride at Ray's because there's nothing else like it.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Ray's is the world's largest indoor mountain bike park with over 100,000 square feet of fun.

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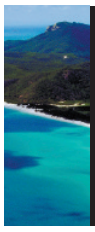

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Lost star Kim gets hitched
She may be "lost" for a few more episodes but Yunjin Kim has found the man of her dreams. The South Korean actress who plays Sun Kwon on ABC's hit Lost, married her boyfriend, Jeong Hyeok Park, in Hawaii on Sunday. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

Back to books
James Franco may be hitting the books ... again. The actor, 31, has been accepted to Yale University's English Ph.D program, the Yale Herald reports, adding that he will begin in September.

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Cyrus shines in serious role

The Last Song
Director: Julie Anne Robinson
Stars: Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth, Kelly Preston, Greg Kinnear
Classification: PG
Rating:

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

So Miley Cyrus is dating her co-star in The Last Song, Liam Hemsworth, a handsome tanned and blond Australian actor.

Now that's out of the way, there's bigger news for Cyrus' fans in this moody movie written by Nicholas Sparks.

Cyrus doesn't sing but plays classical piano; instead of spreading her charm far and wide, she mopes and rebels and fails to thrive. She's irritable, depressed, dressed in teenaged angst black and just wants to be alone. You almost expect her to pull out a cigarette. Hannah Montana, the squeaky clean TV and movie supernova that made the Cyrus family famous and wealthy, is gone. At 17, Cyrus is attempting a brand relaunch as a serious actress.

Miley Cyrus leaves her cheery Hannah Montana persona behind in her latest role as an irritable, depressed teenager in The Last Song.

She plays Ronnie, who's traumatised by the divorce of her parents and struggling to get her bearings in a world she no longer trusts. Rebellion boils over when she's sent to spend the summer with her estranged father (Greg Kinnear) at his beach house. She refuses to speak to him and takes off at the slightest whiff of parental concern. But the beach volleyball kids write her off as emo, and the tough kids try to lure her into drugs and violence. An alpha guy from the volleyball brigade named Will seems to like her without judging her, but Ronnie resists him because she's haunted by the fragility and heartbreak of love she witnessed in her parents' break-up.

But Ronnie and Will get to know each other on the beach, a sensual and romantic setting where sunrises, lapping waves and minimal clothing lead to longing stares and an occasional kiss. They bond over the plight of the sea turtle. But their romantic, sexless idyll is soon broken by tragedy. After all, this is a Nicholas Sparks story; chastity and misfortune make for plenty of bittersweet tears.

Cyrus is interesting; she has unconventional looks, a voice like a trucker, atrocious posture, and frequent public lapses of good taste in evening wear. But she is magnetic and appealing with considerable screen presence. She is a star because of her winning persona, not the singing, or the dancing. She does her best to further herself as a dramatic actress and hopefully, she'll continue to find roles that will challenge her.

Screentimes

VANCOUVER
- Tinseltown: No Passes Wed-Thu 1:40-4:20-7-9:40

NORTH SHORE
- Park & Tilford: No Passes Wed-Thu 6:50-9:30

RICHMOND
- Richmond Centre 6: No Passes Wed-Thu 11:55-3:20-7-10

NEW WEST/COQUITLAM
- Silvercity Coquitlam: No Passes Wed 3:50-7:15-10:20 No Passes Thu 12:55-3:50-7:15-10:20

SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY
- Strawberry Hill Grande: No Passes Wed 3:30-6:50-9:45 No Passes Thu 12:45-3:30-6:50-9:45
- Studio 12 Guildford: Wed-Thu 1:25-4:05-7:05-9:55'
- Colossus Langley: No Passes Wed 7:10-10:10 No Passes Thu 3:40-7:10-10:10

Jon Heder drops out
This is hardly dynamite news for Comedy Central: Jon Heder (Napoleon Dynamite) has abruptly dropped out of the Will Ferrell-produced sitcom he was set to star in for the cable net. EW.COM

Remakes go back to the future, again

Clash of the Titans writers Phil Hay and Matt Manfredi are understandably excited about their movie arriving in theatres Friday. But if you really want to get them going, mention the Red Dawn remake coming later this year.

"I love that movie," Hay says of the 1984 Cold War adventure flick, where Colorado high school students use guerrilla warfare to of America. "Everyone from my generation loves Red Dawn. It's really ripe for a remake."

These days, it seems any movie that came out during the 1980s is ripe for a remake. Clash of the Titans and Red Dawn are but two of a significant number of '80s-related films Hollywood will bring to theatres in coming months.

Joining their ranks are Disney's mega-budget Tron sequel starring Jeff Bridges; reboots of The Karate Kid, Predator and Nightmare on Elm Street franchises; a follow-up to Oliver Stone's Wall Street and the Sylvester Stallone-directed The Expendables; an '80s-style, men-on-a-mission movie teaming Stallone with other action stars of his vintage.

"It's crazy, man," Bridges says. "You almost want to look around and make sure people still have their cell phones and laptops. It's like going back in time."

Chalk it up to the fact that the people who grew up watching Freddy Krueger and Mr. Miyagi are now in a position to greenlight the movies they loved as children.

Jaden Smith, left, and Jackie Chan star in a new version of The Karate Kid.

"Certainly, there's a fondness for that culture for those who come of age with it, and now we want to share it," says Columbia Pictures president Doug Belgrad.

With The Karate Kid, he notes, Will Smith took that idea a step further, suggesting remaking one of his favorite childhood movies with his 11-year-old son, Jaden, starring. The new Karate Kid, due in June, shifts the action to Beijing, attempting to add a dash of culture clash to the familiar story.

In addition to The Karate Kid, Belgrad, 44, and Columbia co-president Matt Tolmach, 45, are developing sequels and reboots to such 1980s properties as Ghostbusters, 21 Jump Street and The Smurfs. 20th Century Fox will release a feature film based on the '80s action-adventure TV series The A-Team this summer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Film looks at China's painful separation

FILM Berlin film festival winner Wang Quanan says shooting his new movie, Apart Together, made him appreciate the personal cost of China's civil war.

The Chinese director's film had its Asian premiere yesterday at the Hong Kong International Film Festival.

It is inspired by a true story that reflects how families on opposite sides of the political divide were separated for decades after China split in 1949, when Mao Zedong's communists forced the then-ruling Nationalists, led by Chiang Kai-shek, to retreat to the island of Taiwan.

Apart Together tells how a Nationalist soldier visits the wife he left behind in the mainland who has since remarried. Reunited with the love of his life, the retired soldier wants to bring her back to Taiwan, but his plans spark a major backlash in his wife's new family.

"The strongest feeling I came away with after making this movie is that the pain actual families had to bear because of divisions within a race, a country, are much greater than we think they are," the 45-year-old director said on the sidelines of the Hong Kong festival.

Wang Quanan

"Even if people are reunited, the emotional distance between them created by time takes a long time to overcome," he said.

Apart Together won a Silver Bear for best script at the Berlin International Film Festival in February. Wang's previous film, Tuya's Marriage, won the festival's top Golden Bear prize in 2007.

The Chinese director said his next project will be a 100 million yuan (US$14.6 million) adaptation of Chen Zhongshi's 1993 epic novel, Bailuyuan, which follows the disputes between rival families in a Chinese village through three generations.

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Dancing with the enemy
Sources backstage at Dancing With the Stars reported to popeater.com the sparring between Kate Gosselin and partner Tony Dovolani seen on Monday's show is just the tip of the iceberg, and that things escalated so quickly that Kate insisted Tony get the boot from the program. POPEATER.COM

McCartney's ex back in court

Heather Mills, the ex-wife of Paul McCartney, defended herself from accusations made by a former nanny at an employment tribunal in Britain yesterday.

Sara Trumble, 26, said Mills was a rude, angry and dishonest woman who forced her to lie to McCartney.

But Mills said yesterday she treated 26-year-old Trumble like a daughter, showering her with gifts and foreign travel.

It was the second day the case was heard at an employment tribunal in the town of Ashford, in southern England, where Trumble is suing Mills for allegedly stripping her of her child-care duties after she gave birth to her own baby girl.

Trumble worked for McCartney and Mills, looking after their young daughter Beatrice, but she claims her relationship with Mills began to deteriorate after her split from the ex-Beatle.

Trumble says she was progressively moved out of her job as a nanny, and that Mills refused to show her any flexibility once she became pregnant with her own child.

The former nanny also claimed that the 42-year-old "Dancing With The Stars" contestant became increasingly bad-tempered after the separation.

"I wasn't the only person who felt that at that time," Trumble said. "It's just that nobody else will stand up. I decided to take action and fight this for myself."

Mills said the charge that she refused to make allowances for her nanny's child was insulting, and both agreed that they had once been close.

Sara Trumble ex-nanny of Heather Mills, arrives at an employment tribunal court in Ashford, England, Monday.

In previous testimony, Trumble said she provided Mills with "comfort and support" after her split with McCartney. Taking the stand yesterday, Mills said she was the one who gave her nanny a shoulder to cry on.

"I treated Sara like my daughter as she often complained that her mother was cold and distant to her," Mills said. "I spent much of my time consoling her, especially when she said she was having problems with her partner."

Trumble accuses Mills of reducing her to tears after calling her back into work while she was still on maternity leave, and humiliating her when she reassigned her to work as a cleaner following the hiring of a new nanny.

Mills herself briefly broke into tears as she described the support she said she'd given her employee.

Describing herself as "overly helpful Heather," Mills said she hired Trumble as a way "to help her better herself, as I thought she had huge potential." She added that Trumble was "more of a baby sitter" than a qualified nanny.

She also catalogued the gifts she gave her employee, including 1,500 pounds when her money was stolen, 500 pounds for the deposit on a new apartment, and a convertible for loyal service.

The nanny went with Mills to celebrate her birthday in Slovenia and was invited to Richard Branson's private Caribbean island, Necker.

Mills said the two got along so well Trumble even asked her to serve as her child's godmother.

Trumble acknowledged receiving the gifts — as well as a 10,000 pound pay off from McCartney when she resigned in 2008.

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British writer tackles global warming in new novel

"We have witnessed endless conferences on climate change, speeches of exhortation by politicians and others, and yet we go on. The gap between what we say we want to do and what we do remains more or less constant. There's comedy in that, even though the consequences might be very serious."
Ian McEwan, author of Solar

A warming planet, deadlocked politicians, feuding scientists. The headlines about climate change are a source of worry and satisfaction to Ian McEwan.

The British writer's new novel, Solar, brings the problem of global warming up against the fallibility of human nature, a conflict vividly illustrated by the failure of December's Copenhagen conference and the scandal over leaked emails in which climate scientists badmouthed rivals and, skeptics say, distorted data to build their case.

It's all evidence, McEwan said, that "science is messy and full of competition and ego and office politics. It's of human matter."

Solar centres on Michael Beard, a Nobel Prize-winning but past-his-prime physicist who stumbles on a way of making abundant clean energy that may save the planet. That is, if his own multiplying problems — five ex-wives, a love rival, other scientists, his own gluttony — don't catch up with him first.

McEwan said the character — "a roguish man with his best work behind him" — allowed him to "reflect something of our nature, or the worst side of our nature, grappling with this problem."

"We have witnessed endless conferences on climate change, speeches of exhortation by politicians and others, and yet we go on," he said. "The gap between what we say we want to do and what we do remains more or less constant. There's comedy in that, even though the consequences might be very serious."

Like a lot of people, McEwan has been reading and worrying about climate change for years, without finding a way to use it in a novel.

"It's actually a terrible subject for fiction," said McEwan, sitting in a work shirt and casual cords in the front room of his London home, a high-ceilinged town house on a Georgian square whose former residents include George Bernard Shaw and Virginia Woolf. "It's a subject full of graphs and statistics and hard science and evolving science, overlaid enormously with ideology and politics and then, most killingly, virtue. I couldn't really see a way in."

A breakthrough came when he attended a conference of eminent scientists in Germany.

"Everyone had a Nobel prize," he said. "And hanging out with them, I was quite struck by a couple of things. One was the comedy of such grand figures, 30 of them in a room — it was like 30 kings of Bavaria and Greece and Britain and Brazil all in one room. And also — slightly comic, but also probably more tragic — the fact of science is you tend to make your breakthrough discoveries in your youth. These were all very grand figures in tuxedoes with their lives largely behind them.

McEwan, 61, is one of Britain's most respected literary novelists, with a precise prose style and an unflinching eye for the psyche's darker corners — grief in The Child in Time, obsession in Enduring Love.

He won the Booker Prize in 1998 for Amsterdam, and was propelled to a new level of fame by Atonement, his 2001 book about a love affair doomed by war and a child's misunderstanding. Emotional, dramatic and structurally playful, it has sold in the millions. The 2007 film adaptation starring Keira Knightley received seven Academy Award nominations.

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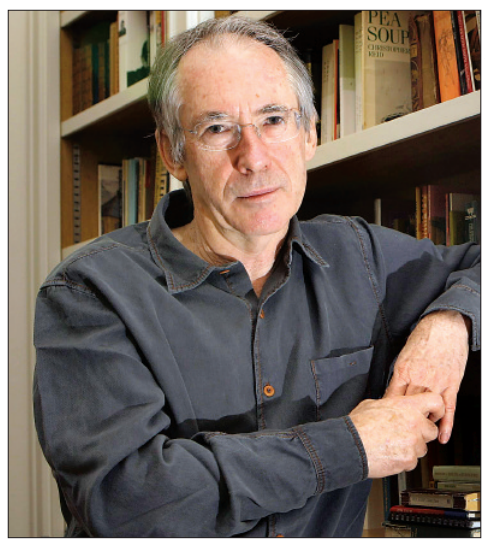

JOEL RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
British author Ian McEwan poses for photographs, following an interview with AP at his home in central London recently.

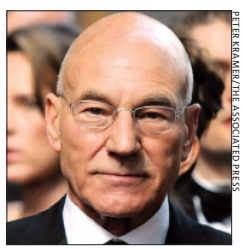
Patrick Stewart returns to Broadway in David Mamet's A Life in the Theatre

BROADWAY Patrick Stewart will star in David Mamet's next Broadway production, a revival of A Life in the Theatre, opening this fall.

Producer Jeffrey Richards announced yesterday that rehearsals will begin Aug. 23 for the play, first seen in Chicago in 1977 and then off-Broadway.

A Life in the Theatre is a backstage tale about the relationship between an older performer and a younger performer. The other role is still to be cast. The director is Neil Pepe.

Stewart was last seen on Broadway in 2008, playing the title character in Macbeth.


PETER KRAMER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
In this June 2008 file photo, actor Patrick Stewart arrives at the 62nd Annual Tony Awards in New York.

Pepe also directed the 2008 Broadway revival of Mamet's Speed-the-Plow.

Mamet currently is represented on Broadway with Race, starring James Spader, David Alan Grier, and Kerry Washington.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No Idol downtime

Latest castoff reflects on hectic schedule

The latest American Idol castoff says downtime doesn't exist when you're on the show.

"There are no days off," says 24-year-old Paige Miles.

After tonight's elimination show, there will be little time for sad goodbyes and reflection.

The contestants are required to have decided what song they'll sing for the following week by Thursday mornings. On Friday, they usually record the song for iTunes, and Saturdays are shoots with mentors, such as this week's guest, Usher.

On Sundays, they film music videos. Monday is filled with more recording and rehearsing.

The contestants also try to fit in shopping for that week's shows, as well as interviews with hometown media.

Miles says the jam-packed schedule can affect the contestant's song choice.

"We think about (that) while selecting songs," she said. "What can you truly push out everyday in rehearsal? What can you really commit to over the next several days?"

GETTY IMAGES

American Idol's latest castoff Paige Miles.

"We think about (that) ... What can you truly push out everyday in rehearsal? What can you really commit to over the next several days?"
Paige Miles, American Idol castoff

Last week, she was sent home after singing a version of Against All Odds that Randy Jackson described as "terrible" and Kara DioGuardi said it was possibly the worst vocal of the season.

The 10 contestants now remaining on American Idol will take part in the annual summer tour after the season ends.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 3/31/10	251	308	3 CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Stars on Ice: On the Edge		Republic of Doyle (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	8 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	Criminal Minds "Outfoxed"		American Idol (CC)		CSI: NY "Manhattanhenge"		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	The Practice (CC)		Third Watch "Judgement Day"		P3	Diya (CC)	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (N) (CC)		Kitchen Nightmares (CC)		Melrose Place "Santa Fe" (N)		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	TMZ (N) (CC)	America's Next Top Model (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims		The Listener "Missing"		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	The Office	The Office	Mercy (CC)		Family	Cougar Town	(:01) Ugly Betty (N) (CC)		EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	America's Next Top Model (N)		Fly Girls (N)	High Society	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Old Christine	On Purpose	Criminal Minds "Outfoxed"		CSI: NY "Manhattanhenge"		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Minute to Win It (CC)		Law & Order: Special Victims		Law & Order: Special Victims		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Supernanny (CC)		Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Restaur.	Lucky Girl (2001, Drama) Elisha Cuthbert.		
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Easter Beagle	The Middle	Family	Cougar Town	(:01) Ugly Betty (N) (CC)		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	28 KVOS	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Last Run ★ (2001) Armand Assante, Jürgen Prochnow.				Seinfeld	King	Cold Files
	291	383	27 PBS	ArtZone	Steves Europe	Tavis Smiley Reports (N)		American Masters (N) (CC)		The Street Stops Here (N) (CC)		
	290	382	23 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Human Target "Tanarak" (N)		American Idol (CC)		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	53 PBS	The Street Stops Here (N) (CC)			Keeping Up	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Tavis Smiley Reports (CC)	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Paid Program	Street Court	Cold Files
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	America's Next Top Model (N)		Fly Girls (N)	High Society	KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	37 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	26 NW	Compulsive Collectors (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Compulsive Collectors (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 "Scientology: A History of Violence" (N)				Larry King Live (CC)		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	UFC Fight Night Florian vs. Gomi.				The Ultimate Fighter		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		UEFA Soccer
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre	That's Hockey	SportsCentre	Off the Record	Global Golf	Sportfishing	Poker		SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth (CC)		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Ghost Hunters
	410	403	54 SCR	Court Surfing		Score Now		Score Now		Score Now		Final Score
	417	406	55 SC	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Racing Chef	NASCAR	Dangerous Drives		Pass Time
	416	409	144 GLF	Toronto-Today	MLS Weekly	Toronto	Gol TV News	MLS Weekly	Toronto-Today	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	iCarly (CC)	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	To Be Indie	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN (CC)	Futurama	King of Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Chicken
	557	541	51 FAM	Wingin' It (N)	Suite Life	Sonny Chance	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	58 TRE	Little Bear	Toopy	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Man Who Found-Titanic		Tea Road to the Sky (CC)		Haydn's Creation Haydn's great oratorio. (N) (CC)				Ladies
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Due South "Body Language"		Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba (CC)	Reba (CC)	According-Jim
	570	580	24 MM	My Date	Jonas	UR11		America's Best Dance Crew		My Date	Jonas	Video on Trial
	600	564	29 H&G	House	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Agent-Agent	Real Estate	Property	Unsellables	House
	615	520	31 A&E	Bounty Hunter	Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
	628	584	32 SPKE	The Ultimate Fighter (N)		The Ultimate Fighter		Deadliest Warrior		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Trek: Voyager
	521	560	34 TLC	Addicted "Kevin" (N) (CC)		Hoarding: Buried Alive (CC)		Addicted "Kevin" (CC)		Tiger Woods		Addicted
	616	522	39 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Trial by Fire (2008, Drama) Brooke Burns, Rex Linn. (CC)				HawthoRNe "Yielding" (CC)		Law-Order
	620	523	40 BVO	White Collar (CC)		Law & Order "Double Down"		Without a Trace (CC)		White Collar (CC)		Red Shoe
	601	562	41 SLC	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Whatever	Real Housewives of New York		Real Housewives OC		Runway
	520	505	42 DIS	Solving History-Olly Steeds		Daily Planet (CC)		Solving History-Olly Steeds		I Could Do	I Could Do	Howe & Howe
	522	506	44 HIS	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Nostradamus Effect (CC)		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		Ice Pilots NWT (CC)		Dive Detect
	627	528	45 SPC	Supernatural (N) (CC)		Stargate SG-1 (CC)		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager "Warlord"		Chuck (CC)
	294	650	47 TBS	House/Payne	House/Payne	Lopez Tonight (N)		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	Dog Whisperer (CC)		Hoarders "Deborah; Jim"		Hoarders Criminal littering.		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled
	603	561	52 FN	Chopped (CC)		Restaurant Makeover (CC)		Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Chopped (CC)		Iron Chef Am.
	-	-	53 AMC	Force 10 From Navarone ★★		Red Planet ★ (2000, Science Fiction) Val Kilmer, Carrie-Anne Moss. (CC)					Breaking Bad (CC)	
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Lucky Louie	Hot Box	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	(6:05) Passchendaele (2008)		Julie & Julia ★★★ (2009) Meryl Streep, Amy Adams. (CC)				(:05) City of Men ★★★ (2007) Douglas Silva.		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Real World (CC)		The Real World (N) (CC)		16 and Pregnant "Samantha"		The Real World (CC)		Real World
	261	394	102 V	(6:00) Beasts of the Bible (N)		Decoding Christianity		Beasts of the Bible Extraordinary creatures.				Paid Program
	-	-	105 MUL	My Queen	Immortal	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical	Temas	Patrol World

critics'corner

The New Adventures of Old Christine
Oh, Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus)! Who else could begin seeing a therapist (Eric McCormack) who shares Matthew's (Hamish Linklater) office space and wind up in a relationship that, well, is in need of professional therapy? Clark Gregg and Emily Rutherfurd also star in "Dr. Little Man." 8 PM on CBS

Law & Order: Special Victims Unit
Following the deaths of three children, Fin (Ice-T) realizes they were all "anchor babies" of immigrant families, and he reaches out to the Center of Immigrant Services, which has been inundated with hate mail fanned by a talk show host who hates foreigners. It isn't long before he witnesses a fight between immigration lawyer Randall Carver (guest star John Larroquette) and a fan (guest star Thomas Sadoski) of the talk show host in "Anchor." 9 PM on NBC

In brief

AWARD UK uber-producer Nigel Lythgoe is being honoured with an award of excellence at the Banff World Television Festival and will deliver a keynote address.
The outspoken Brit is the driving force behind many of television's most-watched reality shows including American Idol, Survivor (UK) and Pop Idol (UK). In front of the camera, he's best known as a judge on So You Think You Can Dance?,

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Peaches canned

Peaches Geldof, right, has been sacked by underwear range Ultimo after naked pictures of her allegedly engaging in a heroin-fuelled romp with a man were put on the Internet. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Get Twiggy with it

Back in the '60s, when Twiggy conquered London and fashion changed forever, the waif of a teen with huge eyes, a boyish bob and long legs craved the glamour and curves of a different icon.

"I wanted a fairy godmother to make me look like Marilyn Monroe. I had no boobs, no hips, and I wanted it desperately," said the world's first bold-face supermodel.

What she wanted was all around her: Fuller-figure models with names nobody remembers, many of them middle-class or upper-crust older girls biding their time before landing husbands. Absent any of that, what Twiggy had was extreme youth, a thirst for fashion and triple-layered false eyelashes that fed her right into the decade's social revolution alongside the Beatles and Pop art.

Now 60, she remains a one-name wonder with a joyous laugh, a gift for chat and a home girl cockney accent. She's achieved, slightly, some of those coveted curves, but she hasn't lost her edge. The singer, dancer, actress and author isn't done yet.

On April 3, Twiggy will hit HSN with an affordable line of skinny jeans, ruffled blouses, gypsy skirts, jackets and accessories in bold colours and price points of under $100. That, she said, would have pleased her younger self, who saved up spending money to splurge at London's Biba boutique.

"I've always had the strong belief that fashion should be for everyone, not just for wealthy people," said Twiggy. "Lots of people can't afford to spend lots of money on clothes, and they should have nice things, too."

Lots of people who wear lots of different sizes. The "Twiggy London" line will be available up to around size 20, said the creator, who cites genes — not starvation — for the rail-thin look that made her the face of 1966 at age 16.

It's not the first time Twiggy has indulged her interest in design, or remote shopping. Her "Twiggy Collection" of last decade was sold online through Great Universal. There were other home shopping ventures as well. Back in the '60s, she put out a line for teens but left it in the dust of some bad business partners after three years.

The youngest of three girls, she was born Lesley Hornby in north London's Neasden to a carpenter dad and a factory worker mom who worked a Woolworth's counter to earn extra money. At 5-feet-6, Twiggy weighed only 91 pounds when she exploded into the culture.

Working Saturdays as an assistant in a hair salon, she met Nigel Davies, who became her boyfriend and manager, changing to the flashier Justin de Villeneuve. They arranged for a popular hairdresser to engineer her androgynous 'do for photos he put up in his salon. The pictures were spotted by one of his clients who wrote for the Daily Express and splashed Twiggy across two pages to launch her career.

By 1967, she was on the cover of Vogue, jetting around the world working six days a week and spreading the London look to America.

Before she was discovered, she was already painting on tiny lower lashes — "my twigs" — to help make her eyes look as large as tea saucers. Her look was perfect for emerging unisex trends and ever-rising hemlines.

She retired from modelling in 1970 after four years, joking at the time: "You can't be a clothes hanger for your entire life." She moved on to stage, films, TV and singing, earning two Golden Globes and a Tony nomination. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fashion model Twiggy, as seen in this 1968 file photo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Twiggy, as seen in one of her designs for HSN, in London.

These handbags and shoes, above, from the Twiggy fashion line for HSN (Home Shopping Network) will be available in bold colours on April 3.

Like mother, like daughter

When Madonna needed inspiration for her latest fashion collection, she didn't have to look far. The pop icon teamed up with her daughter Lourdes, 13, to create Material Girl, a juniors' clothing line that debuts at Macy's this fall.

The collection includes jeans, shoes, fingerless gloves, necklaces and other accessories. Many of the pieces are inspired by Madonna and her daughter's dance roots.

Madonna recently spoke about Material Girl, Lourdes (nicknamed Lola) and her fashion risks and regrets.

Q Why did you want to do a juniors' line?

A Lola has been bothering me for ages about designing clothes. Stella McCartney is a good friend of mine and she got her mind thinking when Lola was a little girl, about eight-years-old. She started giving Lola fabrics and inviting her into her showroom and asking her opinion on things, giving her sketch books and stuff like that. Stella always pushed her. I have a lot of friends who are clothing designers whether it is Gaultier or Dolce and Gabbana. (Lola) has been around all of the shoots I have done and all of the campaigns I have done. She is always hanging out backstage. The last two tours I have done, she has been working in the wardrobe department. On this last tour she dressed all of the dancers.

Q What has Lola taught you about fashion?

A I am boring, basically. She reminds me of me when I was younger. She just goes for it and tries different things. It doesn't look like she thought too much about it. That is how I used to be, but after years and years of everybody commenting on the way I look and dress and being photographed, one starts to become self-conscious and starts to plan things more. You end up judging yourself more, what looks good and what doesn't.

Q What has it been like to work with your daughter?

A It is good because she does have good taste in fashion. I respect her taste and I rarely disagree with her.

Q Was part of you hesitant about Lola designing this line as she would be thrust into the spotlight?

A That is why I am here talking about the line and she is not. Eventually I will let her. I feel like she needs to get into high school and focus on her studies, her lessons. She got into the high school of the performing arts. She has a lot of work to do. I don't want her to be distracted. She will eventually be able to talk about it. I am going to be happy when she does because she can speak much more clearly and in a more informed way than I can about a line she is ultimately designing.

Q The clothing is affordable. Why was it important to you to keep the price low?

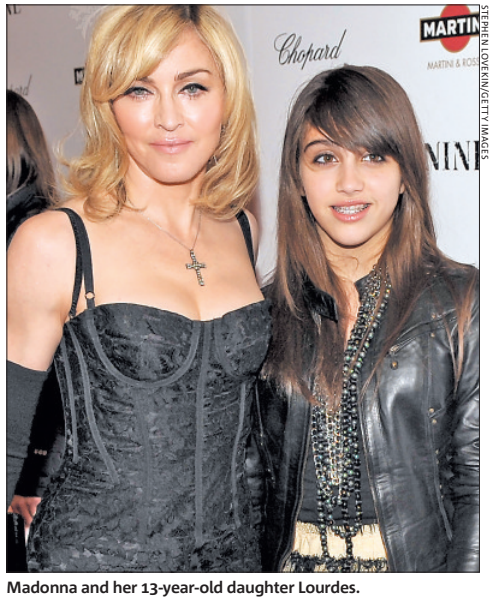
A When I was 13-years-old, I couldn't afford designer clothes. I couldn't afford expensive clothing. When I designed a line of clothes for H&M, that was one of the things I liked so much about it, that it was really affordable. I think that is one of the nice things about it, that you can make nice clothes at affordable prices.

Q With your music career and with the girls' school you are building in Malawi, was part of you hesitant about taking on another project with this clothing line?

A If Lola wasn't so completely involved in the line, designing, consulting, whatever you want to call it, I wouldn't do it. Really she does most of the work, honestly.

Q You are known as being a fashion risk taker. Do you ever look back and wonder, "What was I thinking?"

A Yeah. I would rather not point them out. I think I had a lot of bad hair moments. In the early '80s just sometimes I wore purple lipstick or green lipstick. Clothing-wise, I am happy about the way I dressed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



STEPHEN LOVEKIN/GETTY IMAGES

Madonna and her 13-year-old daughter Lourdes.

Wrong side of the in-flight bed

When a flight attendant on an American Airlines flight to Las Vegas tried to wake Jim Belushi, popeater.com reports, the actor started an argument and the captain had to call the police to meet them at the gate, according to TMZ. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Best couple they can be

I THINK I JUST THREW UP A LITTLE BIT Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt want the world to know that they're not splitting up, despite rumours that Montag was moving out of their Pacific Palisades home, according to People magazine.

"I'm not moving out," Montag says. "I love Spencer with all my heart."

The reality star admits that she and her husband have had some ups and downs lately, though, even discussing divorce at one point.

"I was being dramatic," she says. "We've worked through things and will continue to work on our relationship so we're the best couple we can be."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Courting Courtney

HE'S A BRAVE BRAVE MAN AND OBVIOUSLY HAS A THING FOR WASHED-UP BLONDES Courtney Love is dating Uma Thurman's ex-fiancé, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Hole singer — widow of Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain — began romancing hotelier André Balazs earlier this year and is completely smitten with the handsome businessman and insists the feeling is mutual.

She wrote in an email to a friend: "I'm in lurve (sic). It's nice. Scary. I'm a great catch and he can be a bad boy but he loves me.

"He is the sweetest thing and he actually totally does respect me. His manners are impeccable but he is funny too (sic)."

Love — who has repeatedly claimed to have been defrauded of her wealth by various people — has been staying in a suite at the Mercer Hotel in New York, which her new beau owns, but now says she is spoilt by choices over places where she can stay.

"He has properties everywhere and has given me the key to his apartment, but what is better than living in his hotel?" she said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

Puff, puff, pass the pumps

THAT'S HOW THE REFRAIN GOES, RIGHT? Lindsay Lohan has chosen an interesting way of addressing the cloud of suspicion she's been under since being snapped with white powder pumping out of her high-heels: Attack George Lopez, popeater.com reports.

The Mean Girls star took to her Twitter (what else?) to take on the comedian over a supposed joke he made on the Monday episode of his late-night talk show, George Lopez Tonight.

According to reports, Lopez joked Lohan uses baby powder to loosen up her snug shoes.

This seemingly harmless riff set off Lohan, who wrote: "Thanks for the childish comment regarding baby powder in my shoes to loosen up the leather ... don't you have kids?"

She then added, "Act like a grown man, have some respect and dignity for yourself."

Lopez did not make the jab during his monologue, nor in any clips made available by TBS for Monday.

Lohan was leaving a friend's house in Los Angeles on Saturday when a generous amount of white powder started shooting out of her shoes.

In some angles, it appeared there was smoke puffing out of her feet.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Carrie would know

JEEZ, SARAH, WHY CAN'T YOU BE MORE LIKE THE FICTIONAL CHARACTER YOU PLAY? Sarah Jessica Parker is no good at giving relationship advice, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Sex and the City star — who has three children with her husband of 12 years, Matthew Broderick — isn't an expert when it comes to romance, but thinks it's important for someone to have complete faith in their partner.

"Oh, I am not a good advice giver but I would say the obvious — lack of communication is where things go wrong for people," she said.

"I'm certainly no expert in relationships, God knows, but you need to be with someone who believes in you 100 per cent. If you don't have that, there's no point."

The 45-year-old actress wants to be happily married for the rest of her life, and has admitted she wants to continue kissing her co-stars and husband until she is 70 or 80 years old.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

ELIZABETH BANKS is looking to celebrate, **GOLDIE HAWN** is enjoying the view, and **CONAN O'BRIEN** is learning about different religions.

@ElizabethBanks RNC partied at Voyeur? That's where we had my bday party. I wanna party with the RNC & fret about Armageddon!

@goldiehawn Full moon tonight. The mountains surrounding our house are glowing white, mystical, I am reminded of the magic of life. Look up and dream

@ConanOBrien Jewish fun fact: If you celebrate Passover on top of an overpass, you go back in time.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Not taking the kids

OH BUDDY, YOU REALLY MESSED THIS ONE UP Reports that Sandra Bullock was going to go ahead with plans to adopt Jesse James' children despite their marital troubles are apparently false.

"There are no plans, nor have there ever been any plans, for Sandra Bullock to adopt any of Jesse James' children," her rep tells People magazine. Meanwhile, a source insists Bullock is going ahead with the divorce proceedings because the last month has left her feeling humiliated, sources tell Radar Online.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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Watch JEOPARDY! tonight at 7:30 for the answer.
Following Wheel of Fortune at 7pm

Yesterday's answer: What is snicker.

CBC

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Today 40% Showers 9°/3°
Thursday 40% Partly cloudy 9°/5°
Friday 90% Rain 8°/5°
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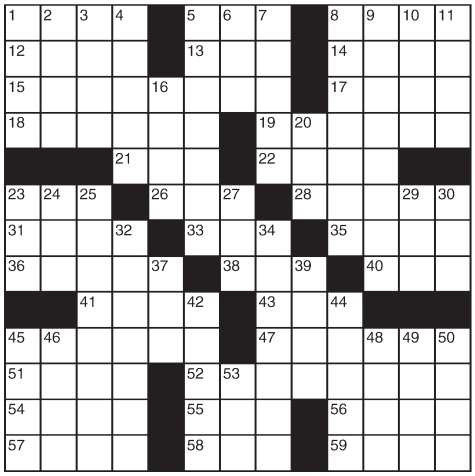
Take Five



Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		9				3		
	7	4	5		9	1	2	
8	6						9	4
			2	9	5			
				6				
			1	7	3			
9	1						5	2
	2	5	4		8	6	3	
		3				7		

ACROSS

1 Unit of cultural information
5 "Flying Down to —"
8 Gospels' follower
12 Director Reitman
13 Work unit
14 Exceptional
15 Red flier
17 Very dry, as champagne
18 Guarantee
19 Chopin pieces
21 Church furniture
22 Information
23 Killer whale
26 Used 21-Across
28 Childhood disease
31 Pinnacle
33 Meadow
35 Angry
36 Throat affliction
38 Pismire
40 Tend the lawn
41 Act
43 Society newbie
45 Treeless tract
47 What some guests become during a wedding
51 Sea eagle
52 Sweater type
54 Storyteller
55 Yoko of music
56 Creche figures
57 Privation
58 Yang counterpart
59 — school

DOWN

1 Cinderella's horses, before
2 Actress — Rachel Wood
3 The Red Planet
4 Ultimately become
5 Urban modernization
6 401(k) alternative
7 Looked lecherously
8 Creeper with pink flowers
9 Spice in Indian cuisine
10 Verifiable
11 Collections
16 Enrages
20 Highland hat
23 Chances, for short
24 On a pension (Abbr.)
25 Cuban port city
27 Afternoon social
29 Expert
30 Stitch
32 Guardians
34 Half a pair at the fireplace
37 Energy
39 Take care of
42 Luring device
44 Goodyear symbol
45 Vend
46 56-Across, e.g.
48 Thickening agent
49 Carry on
50 Quick cut
53 Blackbird

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

F	A	D	E	■	C	B	S	■	H	O	Y	A		
I	B	I	S	■	R	I	O	■	E	V	E	N		
F	L	A	T	H	E	A	D	■	A	U	T	O		
E	E	L	■	A	S	S	■	A	D	M	I	N		
■	■	■	T	U	T	■	F	I	T	■	■	■		
S	E	P	A	L	■	J	A	M	A	I	C	A		
K	N	O	B	■	T	A	X	■	B	O	A	T		
Y	E	L	L	O	W	Y	■	P	L	U	M	E		
■	■	■	E	C	O	■	S	E	E	■	■	■		
B	L	A	S	T	■	M	A	N	■	A	G	E		
R	I	G	A	■	S	A	L	T	F	L	A	T		
O	R	A	L	■	R	I	V	■	E	P	I	C		
W	A	R	T	■	O	N	E	■	B	O	T	H		

3	2	8	9	1	4	5	7	6
4	7	6	5	3	8	9	1	2
9	5	1	2	6	7	3	4	8
7	6	2	3	9	5	1	8	4
8	1	9	4	7	6	2	5	3
5	4	3	1	8	2	6	9	7
1	3	7	6	4	9	8	2	5
6	8	5	7	2	1	4	3	9
2	9	4	8	5	3	7	6	1

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Indian Spicy Potatoes with Spinach and Lentils

INGREDIENTS:

750 g potatoes, peeled and cubed
250 g spinach
3 1/2 tbsp peanut oil
1 onion, finely sliced
2-in. piece fresh ginger, peeled and finely chopped
1 green chili pepper, halved, seeded and finely sliced
1 tsp ground coriander
1/4 tsp ground turmeric
2 x 250-g packages cooked green lentils
2 garlic cloves, cut into fine shreds
1/2 tsp cumin seeds
2 tbsp chopped cilantro

METHOD:

1. Cook potatoes until just tender. Drain.

2. Meanwhile, cook spinach in steamer over potatoes 3-4 minutes, or pierce bag of spinach several times and cook in microwave 2-3 minutes to wilt. Tip into colander and drain, squeezing out liquid with spoon.

3. Heat large pan with 3 tbsp oil. Add onion and cook over medium heat 2 minutes, then stir in ginger, chili pepper, coriander and turmeric. Cook a few seconds, then add potato cubes and stir-fry 3-4 minutes. Stir spinach into spicy potato mixture together with lentils. Season to taste. Heat gently until piping hot.

4. Heat remaining oil in small pan. Add garlic and cumin; cook until lightly browned. Stir in half of cilantro. Tip potato and lentil mixture into serving dish and sprinkle with garlic and cumin mixture and remaining cilantro.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You need to bring balance and stability to your financial situation. Give it some thought.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
If a situation calls for tact today you will use it and get whatever it is that you desire.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Cosmic activity in the most sensitive area of your chart suggests there is something you would rather the world did not find out about you.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You can quite easily persuade other people to see things your way but make sure your way is the right way if you want to stay popular.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
How important is ambition to you? Today's transit of Venus over the midheaven angle of your chart urges you to remember that it isn't everything.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
The less you reveal about your comings and goings today the more others will be intrigued.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Practice what you preach today or leave yourself open to criticism. Resist the urge to cut corners and don't try to get something for nothing.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Relationships of all kinds are about to enter a gentler, more tranquil phase. But don't let others think you've turned into an easy touch.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Make sure that what you have to do gets done properly. Don't cut corners or your reputation will suffer in the long-term.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Why make life more complicated than it needs to be? What is meant to happen will happen at the right time.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Make an effort to please other people today. Not everyone may deserve it but it will do your reputation a great deal of good.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You can get away with almost anything today, but that is not an excuse to break the rules.

This day in history

1889 – The Eiffel Tower is inaugurated.
1912 – Construction is completed on the RMS Titanic.
1918 – Daylight saving time goes into effect in the United States for the first time.
1949 – The Dominion of Newfoundland joins the Canadian Confederation and becomes the 10th Province of Canada.
1985 – The first WrestleMania, the biggest wrestling event from the WWE, takes place in Madison Square Garden in New York
2007 – In Sydney, Australia, 2.2 million people take part in the first Earth Hour.

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